

Fact Sheet

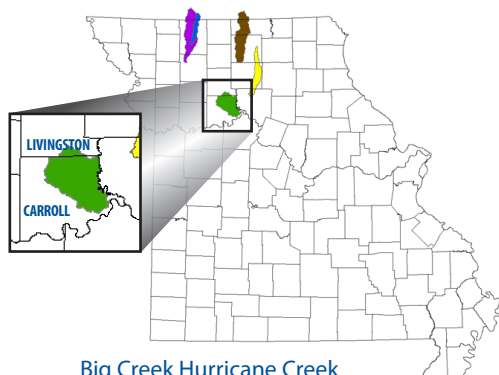
March 2009

Big Creek-Hurricane Creek Watershed Project

Introduction

This watershed project would continue the proposed project by constructing 10 small flood water retarding structures under two federal contracts at an estimated cost of \$500,000 each. Project funding would provide additional environmental benefits and immediate contracts available for the local construction industries and associated businesses within the project's community.

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, this project is part of the Obama Administration's plans to modernize the nation's infrastructure, jumpstart the economy, and create jobs. NRCS is using Recovery Act dollars to update aging flood control structures, protect and maintain water supplies, improve water quality, reduce soil erosion, enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and restore wetlands. NRCS acquires easements and restores floodplains to safeguard lives and property in areas along streams and rivers that have experienced flooding.



Big Creek Hurricane Creek (in green) is located in Livingston and Carroll counties of Missouri.

Project Description

- **Location:** Carroll and Livingston Counties, near Carrollton, Missouri, in Congressional District 6
- **Size:** 176,800 acres
- **Start Date:** December 2009

Big Creek - Hurricane Creek Watershed is 176,800 acres in size. The entire plan consists of accelerated land treatment for crop land erosion control, construction of a series of single purpose floodwater retarding dams. To date 112 of 239 single purpose flood water retarding structures have been completed or are under construction.

Partners

- Big Creek - Hurricane Creek Watershed District
- Carroll County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Carroll County Commission
- Livingston County Commission
- Missouri Department of Conservation

Benefits

This project will have a major environment effect on the watershed problems of soil erosion and floodwater damage. An estimated \$695,000 in average annual benefits have been realized through FY 2008 from the installation of the 112 single purpose structures.

The entire watershed plan is estimated to:

- reduce floodwater damage to 23,600 acres
- provide grade stabilization to degrading stream channels
- reduce overbank deposition of sediment in wetlands and prime farmlands
- provide net beneficial effects on quality and quantity of wildlife habitat

The project will not adversely affect threatened and endangered species. Adverse effect on significant historic properties will be avoided or properly mitigated.

Economic Opportunities

Major highways in the watershed cross or intercept the 100-year floodplain in numerous locations. Private and Commercial transportation rely heavily on the ability of these routes to remain open for safety and commerce reasons. Estimated average annual benefits of \$695,000

The Case for Reinvesting in the Muddy Fork of the Illinois River Watershed



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Statewide Perspective

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